

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A method of editing program code on a data processing system, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the method includes the steps of:
 - defining at least two portions of the program code;
 - selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code;
 - compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and
 - automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including the steps of:
 - selecting at least one previously disabled portion, and
 - automatically re-enabling the at least one selected previously disabled portion.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, further including the step of:
 - assigning each defined portion to a category of a set including at least one category,
 - the step of selecting the first defined portion and the step of selecting the at least one previously disabled portion including selecting at least one category.
4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the set includes at least one category for service instructions.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the program code includes a plurality of instructions, the step of automatically disabling the first selected portion including converting each corresponding instruction into a comment, and the step of automatically re-enabling the at least one selected previously disabled portion including restoring each corresponding instruction.

6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of defining the at least two portions of the program code includes:

enclosing each portion between a starting comment and an ending comment.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further including the steps of:

updating the program code by removing the first defined portion, and
storing the updated program code.

9. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium, having a computer readable program encoded thereon and being directly loadable into a working memory of a data processing system, the computer readable program having instructions for performing a method of editing program code when the computer readable program is run on the data processing system, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the method includes the steps of:

defining at least two portions of the program code;

selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code;

compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and

automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing.

10. (Previously presented) A program product comprising a computer readable medium on which a computer program is stored, the program being directly loadable into a working memory of a data processing system for performing a method of editing program code when the program is run on the data processing system, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the method includes the steps of:

- defining at least two portions of the program code;

- selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code;

- compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and

automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing.

11. (Previously presented) An editor for editing program code on a data processing system, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the editor is provided as a computer readable program on a computer readable medium, wherein the computer readable program includes software instructions for:

- defining at least two portions of the program code;

- selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code;

- compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and

automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing.

12. (Previously presented) A data processing system for editing program code, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the system includes:

means for defining at least two portions of the program code;

means for selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code;

means for compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and

means for automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing.

13. (Previously presented) A data processing system for editing program code, the program code being suitable for subsequent processing, wherein the system includes:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor; and

an input device, wherein the memory comprises instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor implement:

a software module for defining at least two portions of the program code;

a software module for selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code in response to an input from the input device;

a software module for compressing a representation of the first defined portion in a visual representation of the program code such that content of the first defined portion is not visible in the visual representation of the program code, wherein a second defined

portion of the at least two portions of the program code remains visible in the visual representation of the program code; and

a software module for automatically disabling the first defined portion, the disabled first defined portion being excluded from the subsequent processing, wherein the second defined portion is subjected to subsequent processing.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first defined portion is a service instruction portion, and wherein disabling the service instruction portion comprises automatically converting the service instructions in the service instruction portion to comments in the program code by inserting comment tags in association with the service instructions.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
receiving an input to re-enable the first defined portion; and
automatically re-enabling the first defined portion in response to receiving the input, wherein re-enabling the first defined portion comprises removing the comment tags associated with the service instructions.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein compressing the representation of the first defined portion in the visual representation of the program code comprises:

replacing a visual representation of the content of the first defined portion with an identifier of the first defined portion, the identifier indicating a position in the program code where the first defined portion was present but not containing contents of the first defined portion; and

inserting, into the visual representation of the program code, a compression identifier in association with the identifier of the first defined portion, the compression identifier indicating that the first defined portion has been compressed.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the compression identifier is user selectable, and wherein, in response to a user input selecting the

compression identifier, the contents of the first defined portion are expanded in the visual representation of the program code and are re-enabled.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two portions of the program code has an associated level, and wherein selecting a first defined portion of the at least two portions of the program code comprises receiving an input specifying a level such that portions of program code equal to or above the specified level are visually represented in the visual representation of the program code, and wherein portions of the program code that are not equal to or above the specified level are automatically compressed in the visual representation of the program code such that they are not visible.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the first defined portion and second defined portion are both of a same content type but have different associated levels.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein only portions of the program code that are visible in the visual representation of the program code are stored in a compressed version of the program code.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first defined portion of the program code is a comment in the program code, the method further comprising:
moving the first defined portion from its original position in the program code to a predetermined position within the program code to thereby generate re-organized program code; and
storing the re-organized program code.